

TRADE UNION STATISTICS : AUSTRALIA

DECEMBER 1970

Reference 6.24

The figures contained in this bulletin have been obtained from the annual collection of membership of trade unions, etc. as at 31 December 1970. For comparison, figures for some earlier years are also shown. More detailed statistics for earlier years and a description of these series appear in the Labour Report and the Official Year Book.

2. Table 1 of this bulletin shows the number of unions and membership in each State and Territory; Tables 2 and 3 figures for industry groups; Tables 4 and 5 the proportion of total wage and salary earners; Table 6 a classification according to the number of members; and Table 7 interstate unions classified by the area of operation. On page 4 details are shown of organisations registered under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act.

3. In Tables 1 and 3, under the heading "Number of Separate Unions", a union with members in a State or Territory is counted as one union within that State or Territory. The figures do not add to the Australian total because a union represented in more than one State or Territory is included in the figures for each State or Territory in which it is represented, but is counted only once in the Australian total.

4. Where membership figures have been rounded in this bulletin, any discrepancies between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

TABLE 1. - TRADE UNIONS : NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP, STATES

State or Territory	Number of separate unions		Number of members ('000)					
	Dec. 1969	Dec. 1970	December 1969			December 1970		
			Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
New South Wales	210	208	679.9	204.9	884.8	688.9	223.4	912.3
Victoria	152	156	421.7	138.0	559.8	437.9	153.6	591.5
Queensland	135	139	253.1	83.3	336.4	247.5	82.6	330.2
South Australia	135	137	158.6	35.6	194.2	163.2	39.4	202.7
Western Australia	153	155	122.8	39.3	162.2	127.0	41.6	168.6
Tasmania	112	114	55.4	14.4	69.9	57.4	16.6	73.9
Northern Territory(b)	43	45	5.0	0.9	5.9	5.7	0.9	6.6
Australian Capital Territory (b)	70	82	20.9	5.2	26.0	23.0	5.9	28.8
Australia	(a) 309	(a) 305	1,717.5	521.6	2,239.1	1,750.6	564.1	2,314.6

(a) Without interstate duplication. See para. 3 above. (b) Some unions in the Territories are affiliated with State organisations and their membership is reported under the heading of that State. More accurate reporting of membership by location over the years is reflected in the annual figures for the Territories and this affects their comparability over time.

TABLE 2. - TRADE UNIONS : INDUSTRY GROUPS (a), AUSTRALIA

Industry group (a)	Number of separate unions		Number of members ('000)	
	December 1969	December 1970	December 1969	December 1970
Agriculture, grazing, etc.	3	3	58.3	55.4
Mining and quarrying	12	12	34.2	35.3
Manufacturing -				
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	9	9	363.3	389.3
Textiles, clothing and footwear	5	5	99.9	101.7
Food, drink and tobacco	28	27	134.3	143.1
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	6	6	32.8	32.1
Paper, printing, etc.	5	5	59.9	61.7
Other manufacturing	22	21	90.4	91.8
Total manufacturing	75	73	780.5	819.6
Building and construction	20	20	139.1	135.1
Railway and tramway services	22	21	123.7	122.2
Road and air transport	12	13	80.4	84.1
Shipping and stevedoring	12	12	30.6	31.1
Banking, insurance and clerical	14	13	149.0	153.2
Wholesale and retail trade	11	11	88.3	86.7
Public authority (n.e.i.), etc. (b)	69	70	457.2	475.6
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	21	21	62.4	64.3
Other industries (c)	38	36	235.3	252.0
Total	309	305	2,239.1	2,314.6

(a) This table does not supply a precise classification of trade unions and their members by industry. This is because in cases where the members of a union are employed in a number of industries they have been classified to the predominant industry for the union concerned. Comparability between years of membership figures for an industry group may be affected by amalgamation of trade unions classified to different industry groups. (b) Includes communication and municipal, etc. (c) Includes community and business services.

TABLE 3. - TRADE UNIONS : INDUSTRY GROUPS (a), STATES, DECEMBER 1970

State	Manufacturing	Building and construction	Transport	Public authority (n.e.i.), etc. (b)	Other (c)	All groups
						Number of separate unions
New South Wales	50	12	33	50	63	208
Victoria	45	11	21	39	40	156
Queensland	28	7	25	38	41	139
South Australia	39	7	20	37	34	137
Western Australia	31	7	23	44	50	155
Tasmania	32	6	15	30	31	114
Australia (d)	73	20	46	70	96	305
Number of members ('000)						
New South Wales	367.2	47.4	100.3	175.9	221.5	912.3
Victoria	227.9	35.0	53.3	112.7	162.7	591.5
Queensland	80.6	20.2	36.5	66.2	126.7	330.2
South Australia	72.6	10.7	20.5	50.6	48.3	202.7
Western Australia	40.9	13.6	18.5	38.7	56.9	168.6
Tasmania	25.0	4.1	6.7	18.6	19.7	73.9
Australia (e)	819.6	135.1	237.4	475.6	646.9	2,314.6

(a) See footnote (a) to Table 2. (b) See footnote (b) to Table 2. (c) Includes agriculture, etc; mining and quarrying; banking, insurance and clerical; wholesale and retail trade; amusement, hotels, personal service, etc; and community and business services. (d) Without interstate duplication. See para. 3, page 1. (e) Includes members in the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.

Proportion of Total Wage and Salary Earners. Tables 4 and 5 below show the approximate percentages of wage and salary earners in employment who were members of trade unions. The estimates of total wage and salary earners have been derived by adding figures for employees in rural industries and in private domestic service recorded at the 1966 Population Census to the estimates of employees in all other industries as at the end of each year. In comparing the percentages shown in these tables with those published in Labour Report No. 53, 1967 and earlier issues of the Labour Report, allowance should be made for the fact that the present percentages are based on a new series of employment estimates as from June 1966. The change is more significant for female employees as the new employment estimates include a considerable number of part-time employees who had previously been excluded.

TABLE 4. - TRADE UNIONS
PROPORTION OF TOTAL WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS (a)
DECEMBER 1970

State	Number of members ('000)			Proportion of total wage and salary earners (a) (per cent)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
New South Wales (b)	711.9	229.3	941.1	60	38	52
Victoria	437.9	153.6	591.5	52	34	46
Queensland	247.5	82.6	330.2	60	44	55
South Australia	163.2	39.4	202.7	57	28	48
Western Australia	127.0	41.6	168.6	53	36	48
Tasmania	57.4	16.6	73.9	61	39	54
Northern Territory	5.7	0.9	6.6	25	10	21
<u>Australia</u>	<u>1,750.6</u>	<u>564.1</u>	<u>2,314.6</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>50</u>

(a) Percentages not comparable with those published in Labour Report No. 53 and earlier issues of the Labour Report. See text above. (b) Includes the Australian Capital Territory.

TABLE 5. - TRADE UNIONS
PROPORTION OF TOTAL WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS, AUSTRALIA (a)

End of December -	Number of members ('000)			Proportion of total wage and salary earners (a) (per cent)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
1966	1,657.5	466.0	2,123.5	60	37	53
1967	1,663.7	487.6	2,151.3	59	37	52
1968	1,691.1	499.5	2,190.7	59	36	51
1969	1,717.5	521.6	2,239.1	58	36	50
1970	1,750.6	564.1	2,314.6	57	36	50

(a) Percentages not comparable with those published in Labour Report No. 53 and earlier issues of the Labour Report. See text above.

TABLE 6. - TRADE UNIONS - CLASSIFICATION ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF MEMBERS, AUSTRALIA

Number of members	Number of separate unions		Number of members ('000)	
	December 1969	December 1970	December 1969	December 1970
Under 2,000	202	198	109.3	110.1
2,000 and under 5,000	40	40	135.8	136.7
5,000 " " 10,000	15	13	108.6	88.4
10,000 " " 20,000	19	21	268.4	304.9
20,000 " " 30,000	8	7	188.5	158.1
30,000 " " 40,000	7	7	250.2	247.5
40,000 " " 50,000	5	5	r 214.5	222.1
50,000 and over	13	14	r 963.9	1,046.9
Total	309	305	2,239.1	2,314.6

r = Revised since last issue of this bulletin.

TABLE 7. - INTERSTATE OR FEDERATED TRADE UNIONS, AUSTRALIA

End of December -	Unions operating in -					Total
	2 States	3 States	4 States	5 States	6 States	
Number of unions						
1966	10	4	22	31	75	142
1967	11	3	22	27	77	140
1968	11	5	18	26	81	141
1969	10	7	18	23	84	142
1970	11	7	17	27	85	147
Number of members ('000)						
1966	20.9	21.0	243.3	402.5	1,242.0	1,929.6
1967	22.2	20.4	184.9	281.8	1,447.7	1,957.0
1968	21.9	21.8	152.5	326.1	1,474.4	1,996.7
1969	22.5	31.0	130.0	294.8	1,571.9	2,050.2
1970	21.8	23.9	97.1	382.6	1,595.4	2,120.8

ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED UNDER THE COMMONWEALTH CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION ACT

At the end of 1970 the number of employers' organisations registered under provisions of the Act was 75 (75). The number of unions registered at the end of 1970 was 153 (149), with membership of 1,939,860 (1,901,100), representing 85 (85) per cent of total membership of all trade unions in Australia. Comparable figures for 1969 are shown in brackets.

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NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 63 9111 extension 2055 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.

